

Message Text

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21

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, OAU, ZA

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN PRESS EDITORIAL REAFFIRMS GRZ VIEW OF OAU SUMMIT
GOALS

1. SUMMARY. EDITORIAL IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL
JANUARY 9 REAFFIRMS ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT VIEW OF PRIORITIES AND
OBJECTIVES TO BE SERVED BY CURRENT OAU SUMMIT ON ANGOLA.
EDITORIAL STRESSES THAT MEETING IS OPPORTUNITY TO FIND AFRICAN
SOLUTION TO ANGOLAN CRISIS BUT WARNS THAT OAU WOULD OVERSTEP
MARK AND STIR UP TROUBLES FOR ITSELF IF IT ATTEMPTS DETERMINE
WHICH PARTICULAR POLITICAL MOVEMENT SHOULD RULE IN ANGOLA.
EDITORIAL SPECIFICALLY CONDEMNS SOUTH AFRICA, CUBA, AND USSR
FOR INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA AND CONCLUDES WITH RENEWED
APPEAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY (GONU)
THERE. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

2. ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL STATES THAT CURRENT OAU EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT
IS IMPORTANT, NOT BECAUSE SOME COUNTRIES WANT IT TO BE MAIN
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PLATFORM AT WHICH AFRICA WILL DECIDE WHETHER TO ACCEPT ONE

POLITICAL PARTY AS MAIN PARTY TO REPRESENT GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA OR BECAUSE IT WILL DEMONSTRATE IDEOLOGICAL DIVISIONS WITHIN OAU BUT BECAUSE THIS IS CHANCE FOR OAU TO WORK OUT AN AFRICAN FORMULA FOR RIDDING ANGOLA OF FOREIGN INTERFERENCE AND TO HELP ANGOLAN PEOPLE WORK TOWARDS PEACE THROUGH UNITY. ABOVE ALL, IT IS OPPORTUNITY FIND PERMANENT SOLUTION TO END BLOOD-LETTING IN ANGOLA.

3. EDITORIAL EXPLICITLY STATES THAT OAU SUMMIT HAS "NO RIGHT TO DECIDE WHICH OF THE THREE POLITICAL PARTIES THE OAU MUST SUPPORT." NOTING THAT DURING PAST TWO YEARS OAU HAS SUPPORTED ALL THREE ANGOLAN MOVEMENTS, EDITORIAL STRESSES THAT CHOICE OF THEIR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP IS EXCLUSIVELY THAT OF ANGOLAN PEOPLE THEMSELVES. AS CURRENT CIVIL WAR REVEALS, PEOPLE OF ANGOLA AS A WHOLE ARE NOT YET AGREED AMONG THEMSELVES ON WHICH OF THREE PARTIES THEY WISH GOVERN THEM. DAILY MAIL ARGUES IT THEREFORE WOULD BE PRESUMPTIOUS OF OAU ATTEMPT MAKE THAT DECISION. MOREOVER, IF IT DID SO IT WOULD ESTABLISH UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT THAT MIGHT BE EXPLOITED IN FUTURE BY POLITICAL OPPONENTS TO UNSEAT RULING POLITICAL PARTIES IN OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

4. IMPORTANT TASK FACING OAU IN ADDIS ABABA IS ONE OF REMOVING FOREIGN TROOPS IN ANGOLA TODAY. THESE ARE SOUTH AFRICANS, CUBANS, AND SOVIETS. "THESE THREE COUNTRIES ARE IN ANGOLA EITHER AS IMPERIALISTS OR AGENTS OF IMPERIALISM" PURELY FOR THEIR OWN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND LONG-TERM MILITARY ENDS. EDITORIAL NOTES THAT SOUTH AFRICANS NOW REPORTED BE PULLING OUT OF ANGOLA BUT THAT SOVIETS APPEAR TO BE "PRETTY STUCK" THERE AS ARE CUBANS. AFRICANS DO NOT WANT TO SEE THESE TWO COUNTRIES, IN PAST IDENTIFIED WITH AFRICAN ASPIRATIONS, ENCOURAGING AFRICANS TO KILL ONE ANOTHER OR ACTIVELY TAKING PART IN DECIMATION OF ANGOLAN POPULATION. "RUSSIANS WILL BE ADVISED TO PULL OUT OF ANGOLA TOGETHER WITH THEIR BLACK (SIC) CUBANS NOW TERRORIZING PEOPLE OF ANGOLA."

5. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT IF OAU CHIEFS OF STATE WISH TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY BOOKS AS TRUE LEADERS OF AFRICA, THEY WILL WORK IN ADDIS ABABA FOR UNITY OF PEOPLE OF ANGOLA AND FOR PEACE AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOVEREIGNTY OF THAT COUNTRY THROUGH GONU INVOLVING ALL THREE POLITICAL MOVEMENTS. END UNCLASSIFIED

6. COMMENT: EDITORIAL IN DAILY MAIL IS IMPORTANT BOTH BECAUSE IT APPEARS IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED PAPER AND BECAUSE IT EXPRESSES PUBLICLY VIEWS ON WHAT SHOULD BE SUMMIT OBJECTIVES EARLIER GIVEN ME PRIVATELY BY SENIOR STATE HOUSE OFFICIAL. DEPARTMENT MAY THEREFORE WISH REPEAT TO OTHER OAU MEMBER ADDRESSEES

AS APPROPRIATE.

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